

ABSTRACT

Disclosed is an electronic steering wheel lock for motor vehicles, comprising a rotor (5) that is rotatable within a stator (2) from an initial position and back into said initial position so as to move a locking member (3) back and forth between a steering shaft-locking position and a steering shaft-releasing position. In its initial position, said rotor (5) can be coupled in a positive manner to the stator (2) under the effect of a spring load (22) while being movable within the stator (2) in an axial direction against the effect of the spring load (22) by means of an electromagnet (7) disposed coaxially to the rotor (5) in order to cancel the mutual engagement between the rotor (5) and the stator (2) and allow the locking member (3) to be moved into the steering shaft-releasing position when the electromagnet (7) is excited with the aid of an electronic key. The rotor (5) is provided with at least one coupling dog (23) which cooperates with a coupling slot (24) of the stator (2). Said coupling slot (24) is delimited by an inertial element (26) on the side towards which the rotor (5) is rotatable within the stator (2) from the initial position thereof. The inertial element (26) can be displaced within the stator (2) along with the rotor (5) against the effect of a spring load (27) when the rotor (5) is moved in axial direction against the effect of the spring load (22) thereof as a result of a blow being inflicted on the stator (2). Said mechanism of protection against blow effects can also be provided in a corresponding electronic ignition and starting switch for motor vehicles.